

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 482  
By Burks

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Flavious Smith of  
Tennessee Technological University on the  
occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary citizens who have given unreservedly of themselves to improve higher education in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Flavious Smith, chairperson of the department of health and physical education at Tennessee Technological University since 1962, is most assuredly one such meritorious educator; and

WHEREAS, Flavious Smith has announced that he will retire this year after thirty-four years of astute service to the university and the community, which service stands unequalled in probity, devotion and integrity; and

WHEREAS, among his many outstanding years of service to the university, Mr. Smith counts twenty years as chair of the Tennessee Tech Sports Hall of Fame committee; and

WHEREAS, as a student at Tennessee Tech, Mr. Smith played both football and basketball from 1948 to 1952; and

WHEREAS, a remarkable athlete, he holds the distinction of being the only person ever to be selected All-OVC in both football and basketball; and

WHEREAS, described as "intelligent and caring, with a great deal of expertise in his discipline" by Edell Hearn, former dean of the college of education, Flavious Smith has proven to be the ideal person to lead the health and physical education department; and

WHEREAS, under his estimable leadership, the department has progressed from a focus on calisthenics to a more modern, innovative curriculum of fitness and wellness; and

WHEREAS, Professor Smith initiated the “life experience” courses that are now a mainstay of the department’s curriculum and he also established the master’s degree in health and physical education at Tennessee Tech; and

WHEREAS, under his inspired tutelage, the department has been accredited repeatedly by national and state organizations; and

WHEREAS, as an administrator, he has served astutely and with proficiency on the curriculum committee and the athletic committee, among others; and

WHEREAS, his excellence and many achievements as an educator and administrator aside, perhaps Mr. Smith’s most important contribution to Tennessee Tech has been his caring attitude for both the students and the university in general; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith is renowned for his unrelenting support of the university, and “he has always treated everyone fairly, humanely and with real concern”; and

WHEREAS, Flavius Smith’s dedication to his fellow human beings can also be witnessed in the community outside of the university; and

WHEREAS, he has served adroitly and with distinction as chairperson of the Tennessee Air Conservation Committee and as a board member for the Tennessee Tuberculosis and Health Association, the Putnam County Board of Education, the First Tennessee Bank and the Department of Human Services’ Division of Rehabilitation Services; and

WHEREAS, he has worked unselfishly as a volunteer for nine Tennessee Special Olympics, and evidences his robust faith in the Lord through his membership in the First United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Flavius Smith has served Tennessee Tech with diligence, dexterity and compassion, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That on

the occasion of his retirement, we hereby honor and commend Flavious Smith upon his thirty-four years of meritorious service to Tennessee Technological University as chairperson of the health and physical education department, and salute his brilliant career as an educator and administrator.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wish him much continued success and happiness during the golden years of his retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.